GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2456
ANSWERED ON:31.07.2017
Tea Quality
Reddy Shri A.P. Jithender

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware that the 20 per cent export clause in the 12th Plan scheme for upgrading tea quality is proving to be a dampener for the tea industry due to its restrictive nature and if so, the details thereof;
(b) the number of applications received by the Tea Board of India for availing the Quality Upgrade and Product Diversification scheme;
(c) whether the number of applications received is very low in comparison to the number of applications received during the 11th Plan that had no export clause; and
(d) if so, the details thereof along with the rationale behind introducing such a clause and the steps undertaken by the Government to increase the number of applications?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (INDEPENDENT CHARGE)
(SMT. NIRMALA SITHARAMAN)

(a)to (d): The objective of the mandatory 20 per cent export clause under the Quality Upgradation & Product Diversification (QU&PD) Component of 12thPlan "Tea Development & Promotion Scheme" of Tea Board, wasto enhance the quality of made tea by way of giving incentives for modernization of tea manufacturing units, warehouses, units dealing with value addition of tea, Organic tea production and production of Orthodox/Green tea with the ultimate goal of enhancement of export of Indian Tea. During the 12thPlan period total 439number of applications were received by Tea Board as against 1596 number of applications received during the 11thPlan under the QU&PD component.

Based on the evaluation report of the 12th Plan scheme, the QU&PD component has been appropriately modified in the Medium Term Frame Work proposal for the years 2017-18 to 2019-20.

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